

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 02565 120013Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02
(ISO) W

-----119539 121215Z /21

R 112316Z AUG 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4841
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERSUALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2565

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, IS, SF
SUBJECT: ISRAELI CONCERN MOUNTS OVER LAGOS CONFERENCE

REF: A) USUN 2553; B) USUN 2551

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ISRAELI PERM REP HERZOG EXPRESSED INCREASING APPREHENSION OVER HIS ATTENDING THE LAGOS CONFERENCE. HIS INCLINATION IS NOT TO ATTEND BUT SEEKS US EVALUATION OF PROSPECTS THAT CONFERENCE NOT DWELL ON ANTI-ISRAELI DEVELOPMENTS. WE SUGGEST USUN REQUEST AMBASSADOR HARRIMAN'S ASSESSMENT AND EMBASSY LAGOS CONTACT NIGERIAN OFFICIALS. END SUMMARY.

2. ISRAELI PERM REP HERZOG CALLED AMBASSADOR LEONARD AUGUST 11 TO REITERATE HIS MOUNTING CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE ANTI-ISRAELI ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT TRANSPIRE AT WORLD CONFERENCE FOR ACTION AGANST APARTHEID. HE REVIEWED DISCONFORTING DEVELOPMENTS TO DATE AS REPORTED REFTELS,-- INVITATION TO PALESTINIAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE TO ATTEND THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 02565 120013Z

CONFERENCE, THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID DISCUSSION OF ISRAEL'S ARMS RELATIONSHIP AND ALLEGED ISRAELI NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND AMBASSADOR HARRIMAN'S NIGERIA TIMES STATEMENT ON NIGERIAN INTENTIONS TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST THE COLLABORATORS WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

3. HERZOG PLACED PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE ALLEGATION OF ISRAELI COLLABORATION ON NUCLEAR FIELDS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. HE SAID THIS WAS PLAIN MISINFORMATION WHICH ISRAEL HAS DENIED REPEATEDLY IN THE PAST. HERZOG CONCLUDED THAT HE FELT MORE AND MORE UNEASY ABOUT ISRAELI PARTICIPATION IN THE LAGOS CONFERENCE AND HE WAS INCLINED AT THIS STAGE NOT TO ATTEND.

4. COMMENT: THERE IS AMPLE JUSTIFICATION FOR A CERTAIN DEGREE OF APPREHENSION BY HERZOG OVER HIS ATTENDING THE LAGOS CONFERENCE. NOT THE LEAST UNCERTAINTY IS THE POSITION OF HARRIMAN HIMSELF. THE ISRAELIS RECALL HIS ASSURANCES OF USING HIS INFLUENCE TO RESTRICT THE CONFERENCE TO APARTHEID. NOW THEY ARE WONDERING IF HE IS WILLING OR ABLE TO HOLD THE LINE. MORE RELEVANT IS ISRAEL'S VULNERABILITY ON ITS ARMS RELATIONSHIP WITH SOUTH AFRICA, ABOUT WHICH AMBASSADORS YOUNG AND LEONARD HAVE PERSISTENTLY CAUTIONED HERZOG AS POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS AND A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO BETTER ISRAELI RELATIONS WITH MODERATE AFRICAN NATIONS.

5. HERZOG ANTICIPATES THAT THE CONFERENCE COULD PRODUCE A CONFRONTATION WHICH HIS PRESENCE COULD NOT SERVE TO ABATE. HE VIEWS A POSSIBLE PRUDENT COURSE AS THAT OF WITHDRAWING ISRAELI ATTENDANCE.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 02565 120013Z

IN OUR VIEW, HERZOG MAY BE BACKING AWAY TOO READILY PROVIDING A FURTHER MANIFESTATION OF ISRAELI ISOLATION, VOLUNTARY IN THIS INSTANCE. HERZOG, BY CONVEYING TO US HIS UNEASINESS, IS IN ESSENCE PASSING THE BUCK WITH THE CLEAR IMPLICATION THAT HE'LL LOOK TO THE US FOR SUPPORT IN KEEPING ISRAEL OUT OF THE FOREFRONT OF THE LAGOS CONFERENCE. THIS SUPPORT WOULD BE FORTHCOMING ON OUR PART WITHOUT HOWEVER ANY CERTAINTY THAT IT WOULD PREVAIL. HOWEVER, BEFORE PROVIDING ENCOURAGEMENT FOR HIS ATTENDANCE DESPITE THESE EARLY WARNING INDICATIONS, WE SUGGEST AMB. HARRIMAN'S JUDGMENT ON THIS BE SOUGHT AGAIN BY AMB. LEONARD. AT THE SAME TIME WE SUGGEST AS EQUALLY USEFUL THAT EMBASSY LAGOS FOLLOW UP ON THIS WITH NIGERIAN OFFICIALS AT AN APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL. USUN WILL REPORT FURTHER ON BASIS OF HARRIMAN'S EVALUATION OF CONFERENCE BEING ABLE TO AVOID CONCENTRATING ON ISRAELI-RELATED ISSUES. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO EMBASSY LAGOS.
LEONARD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: APARTHEID, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN02565
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770290-1334
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770869/aaaachau.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8937105c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 USUN NEW YORK 2553, 77 USUN NEW YORK 2551
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1624001
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI CONCERN MOUNTS OVER LAGOS CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, PORC, IS, SF, UN, (HERZOG, CHAIM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8937105c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009